

Region 2 Fire Danger Outlook

3/21/19. Covering the period 3/21/19-3/27/19

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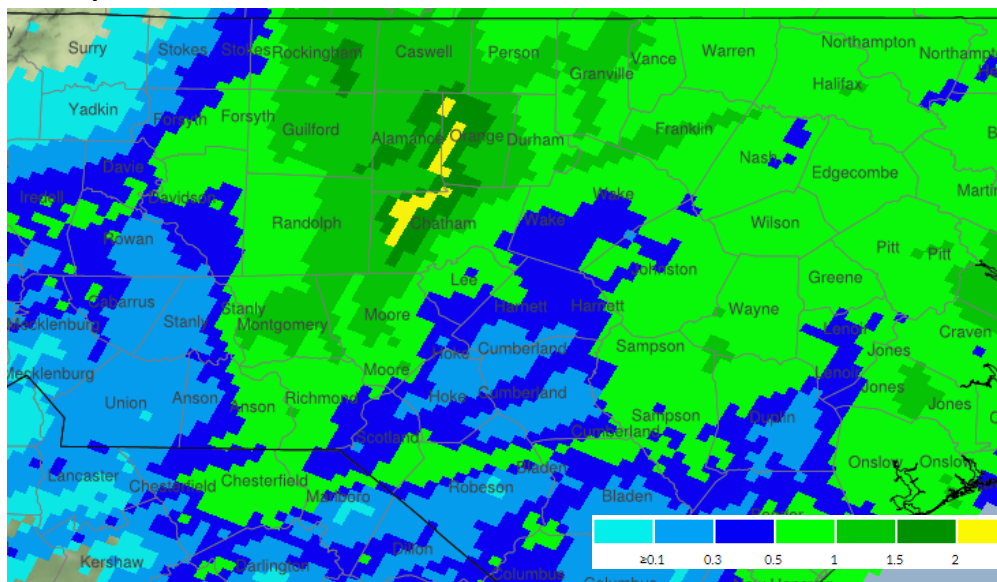
Weather Outlook

- The coastal low-pressure system that brought rain over the past 24+ hours has moved north of the area eastern Virginia this afternoon. A cold front will push through the region early Friday morning but will bring little to no additional precipitation. High pressure will build over the region for the weekend, with the next chance for wetting rain coming late Monday night through Wednesday. For March 28-April 3, there is a 33-40% chance of **above** normal precipitation.
- Minimum RH will generally be in the mid-40s-mid 50s in the western part of the region for today and mid-60s for the eastern sections for today, with upper 20s to mid-30s for tomorrow through Sunday. For Monday and Tuesday, expect mid 40s-mid-50s, then back to the 30s for Wednesday.
- Winds will be generally be 6-10 MPH from the W/NW for the rest of today, with gusts up to 22. For tomorrow and Saturday, expect W/NW from 12-20 with gusts to 30 MPH. They will be the same general speed but switching to the northwest on Saturday with the frontal passage. For the remainder of the period, expect winds from 5-10 MPH. Mixing heights should be 5-7,000 feet today and tomorrow, with transport winds W today at 20-25 MPH; W at 30-40 MPH for Saturday.
- High temperatures will be in the low 50s- low 60s through the period except Monday when they will range from the mid-60s to low 70s. Lows will be from the upper 20s to around 40. For March 28-April 3, there is an equal chance of **above** or **below** normal average temperatures.

Fire Activity (does not include federal ownership)

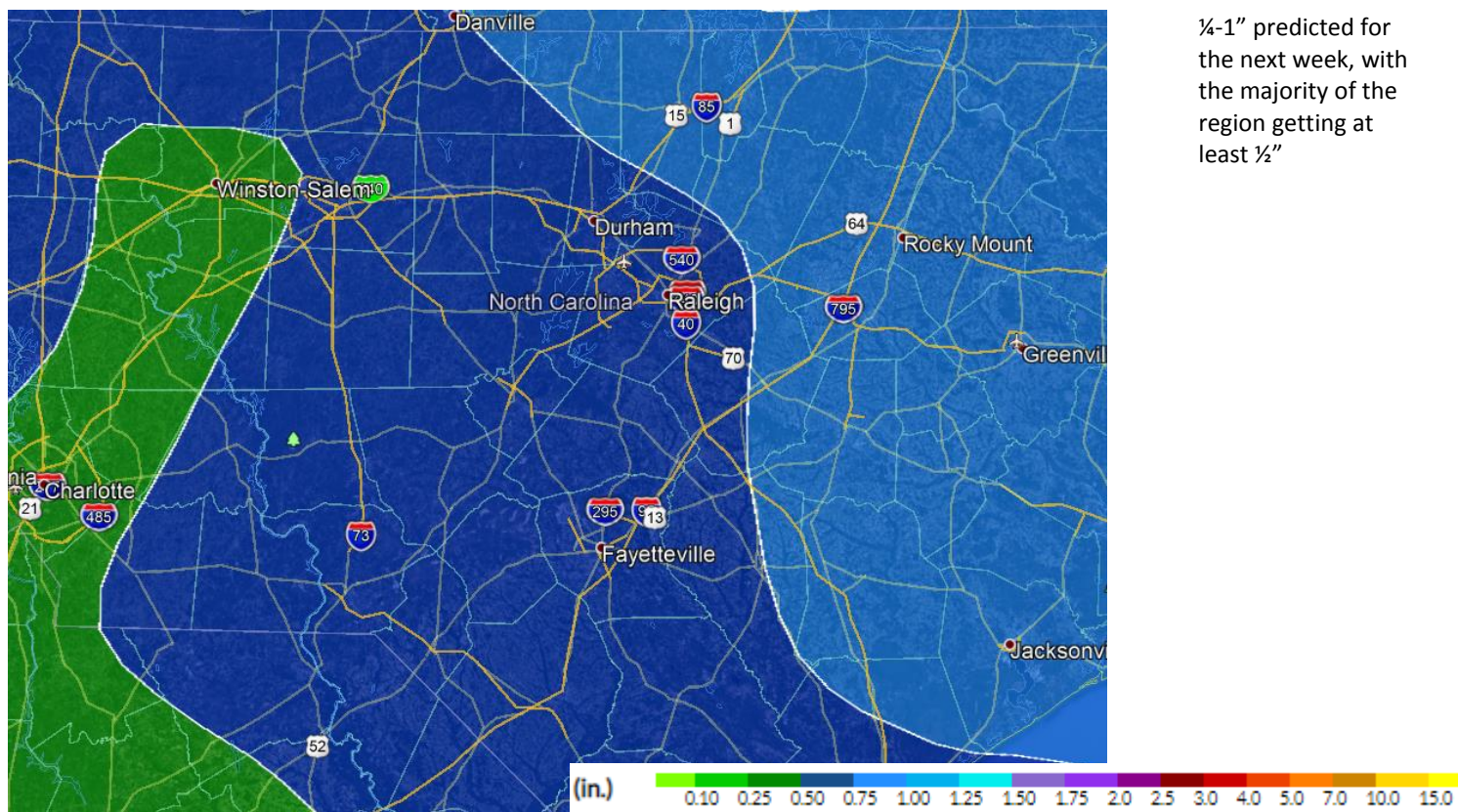
3/14-3/20	<u>Number</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Wildfire	83	363
Prescribed Fire	53	5,383

Precipitation Estimates for March 14th, 0800 to March 21st, 0800

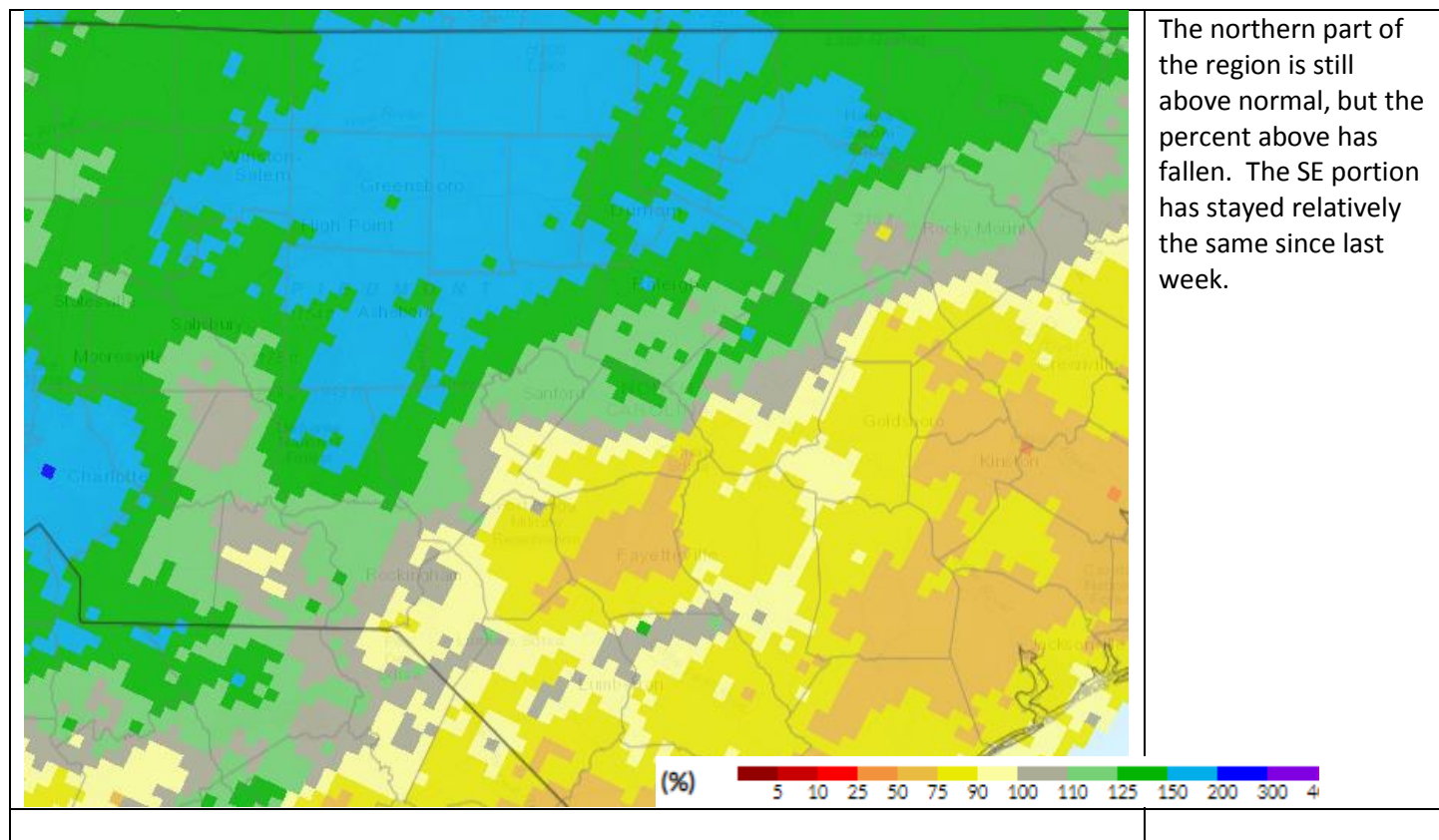


Most of the rain fell over the last 24 hours of the period. .5-1+” over most of the region, except the south central and far west which received less.

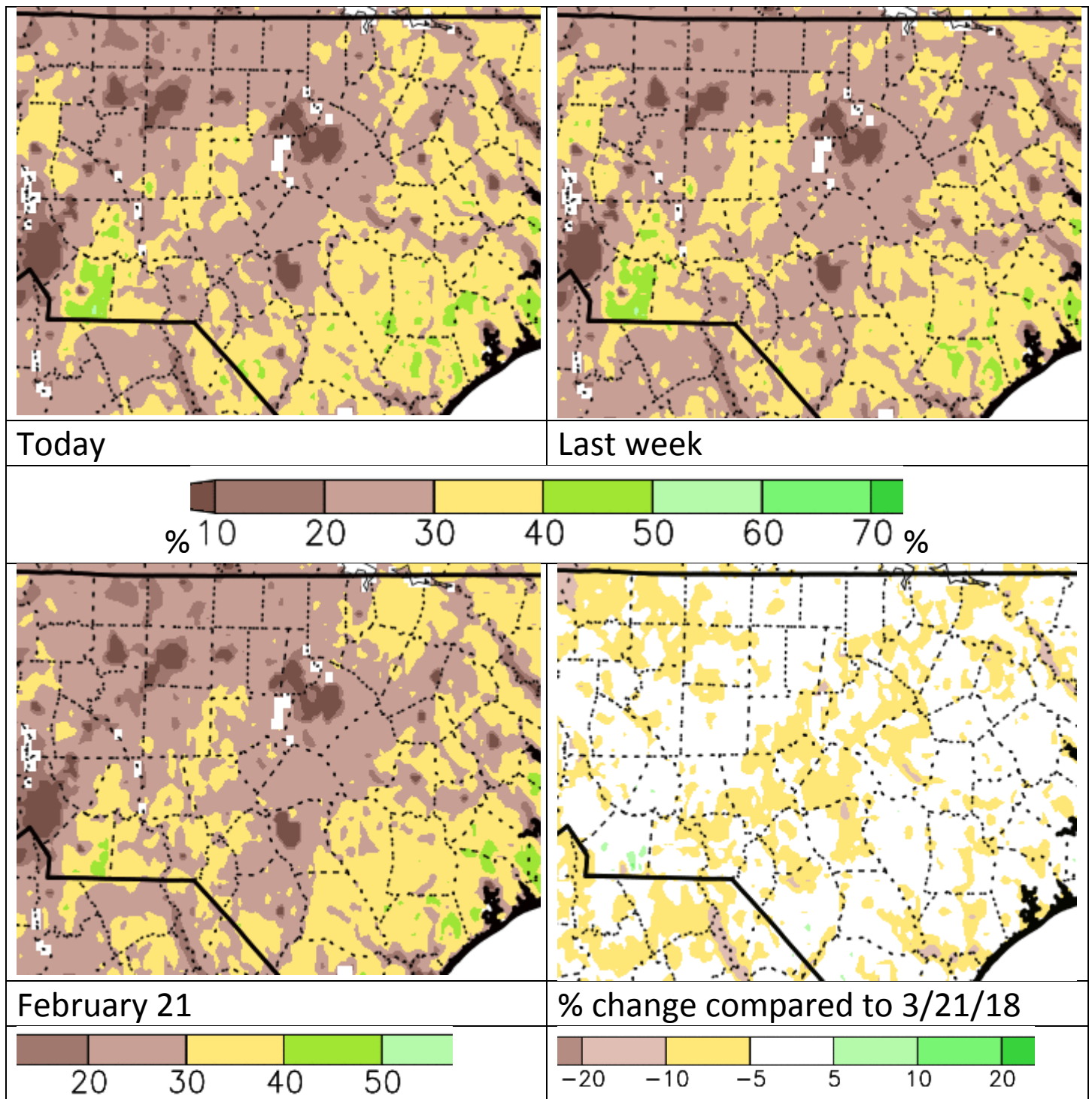
Forecast Precipitation, March 21, 0800 to March 28, 0800



30 Day Percent of Normal Precipitation, February 19-March 21

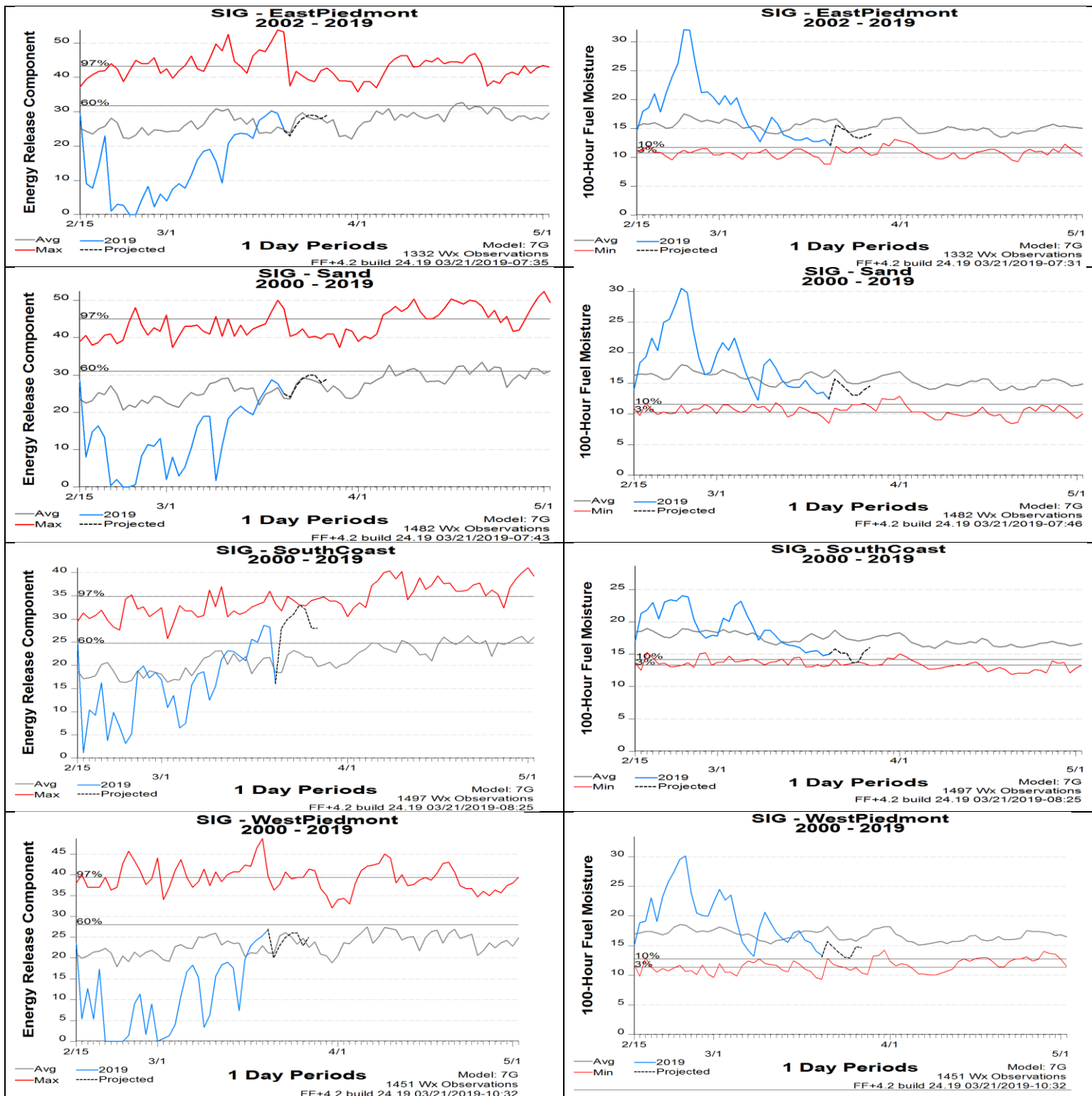


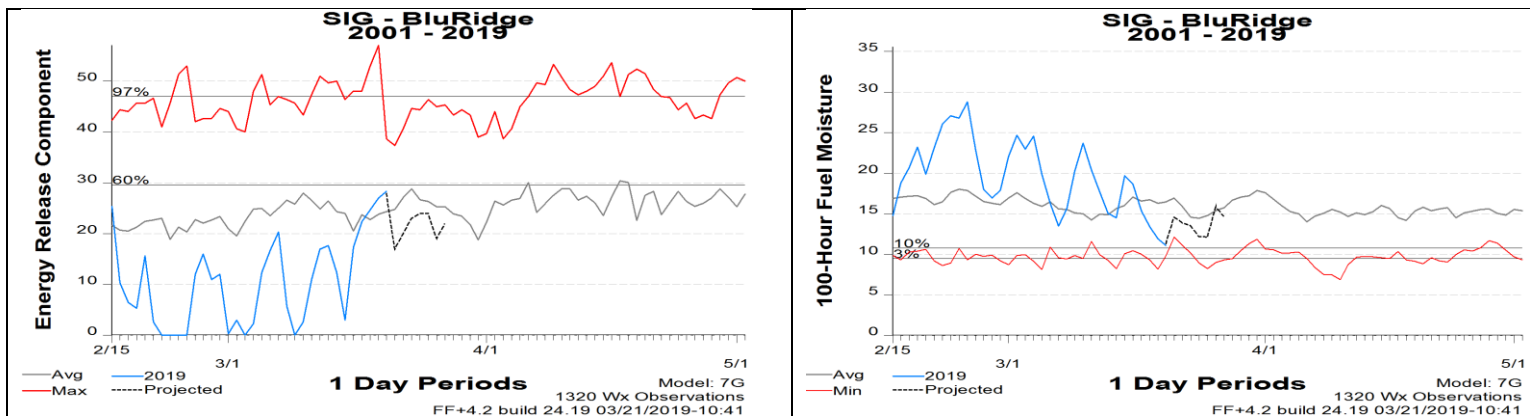
Green Vegetation Fraction (%)



The Green Vegetative Fraction (GVF) is a satellite-based detection of the percent of the land that is covered with green vegetation within a 3km grid. For example, if 33% of the land within a 3km X 3km (approximately 2,250 acre) area is covered with green vegetation, that grid would appear as yellow on the map. Areas that are predominantly water will show up as white. Urban areas will appear as less green than they are. Areas with large percentages of wheat and/or cool season grasses will show as green before forests, other row crops or warm season grasses. The purpose of these maps is to give an idea of where greenness is occurring, how quickly, and how it compares with last year at the same time. It may assist fire managers in focusing attention into areas that are not so green and have a higher potential for wildfire starts.

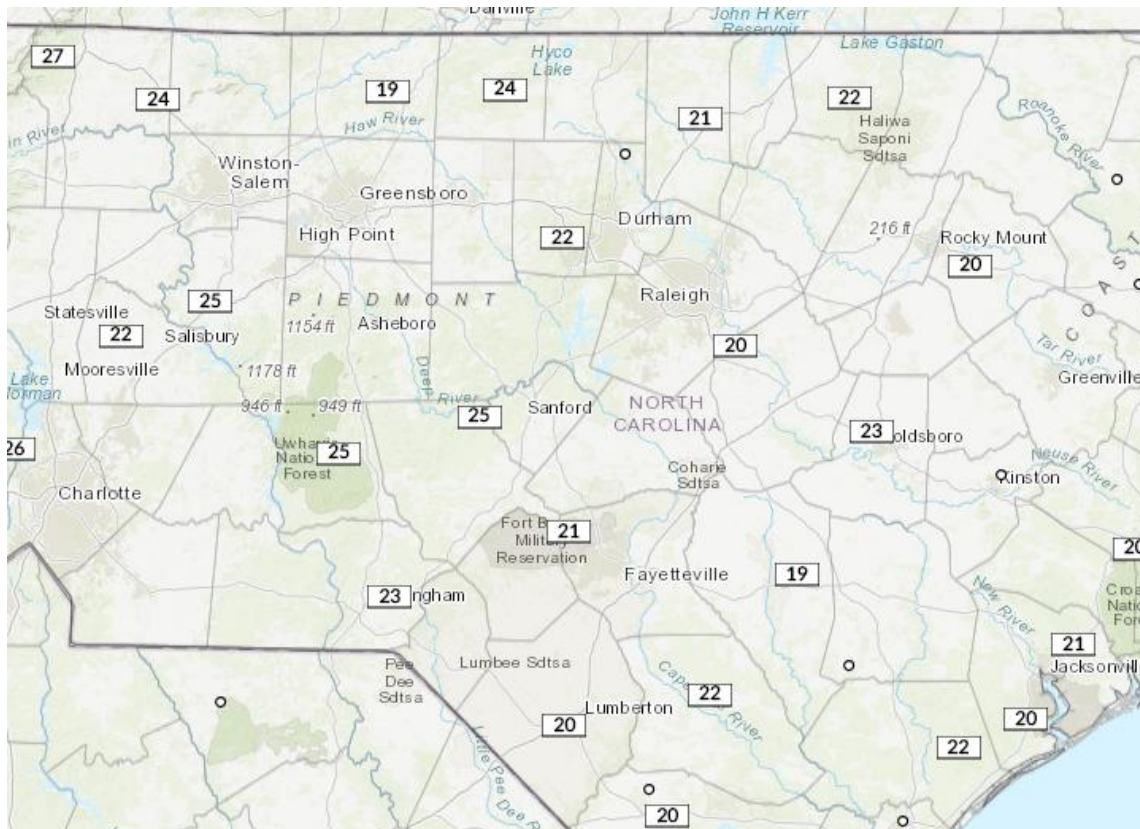
ERC and 100 HR FM Trends





ERCs are projected to be around normal this week except the Blue Ridge will be slightly lower and the South Coast will be much higher. 100 HR FMs are predicted to be normal to slightly below normal except South Coast which shows well below normal.

1000 HR Fuel Moisture, 3/20, 1300



Seven Day Potential for a Significant Fire

There has been some confusion as what constitutes a “significant fire.” A significant fire is simply defined as a fire that would require mobilization of additional resources from outside the fire event area. For the NCFS, this typically mean ground resources from outside the district (aerial resources are regional or statewide and are often used on IA fires). For example, a district has tapped all of its available tractors and an additional

tractor plow strike team is needed on a fire. The district orders and received a TP strike team from another district. That would be a “significant fire” whether it lasts through 1 burning period or 2 weeks. It is not necessarily a fire requiring an IMT, although it could be. An excellent explanation of the 7-Day Significant Fire Potential Product can be found at https://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/outlooks/7-Day_Product_Description.pdf

The product itself can be found at <https://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/forecast/#/outlooks?state=map&gacId=9>

There is little or no risk for a significant fire in the region during the period.